



Editors' note

Luís F. Costa^{1,2}  · Margarida Duarte³

Received: 1 November 2017 / Accepted: 6 November 2017 / Published online: 13 November 2017
© ISEG 2017

1 PEJ update

This year the Portuguese Economic Journal (PEJ) continued building on the positive trend of recent years. The number of new submissions continued their steady growth process initiated in 2014 and by September 2017, we had already reached the total for 2016. Furthermore, we now have a backlog of accepted papers that allows us to publish one issue in advance.

Considering these positive trends, the executive board (ExB) of PEJ decided to anticipate the publication dates of issues by one month each year, starting in 2018, until we reach the final publication schedule in 2020: January, May, and September. Therefore, the first issue for the 17th volume will be published in March 2018, the second issue will be out in July, and the final one in November. This brings PEJ's publication schedule in line with leading generalist journals and increases visibility of accepted articles.

Let us have a look at some statistics for 2016, as we are writing this note in October 2017. A new record was beaten in 2016: 115 new submissions, nearly two thirds and

✉ Luís F. Costa
lukosta@iseg.ulisboa.pt

Margarida Duarte
margarida.duarte@utoronto.ca

¹ ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics & Management, Universidade de Lisboa, Rua do Quelhas 6, 1200-781 Lisboa, Portugal

² UECE - Research Unit on Complexity and Economics, ISEG, Rua Miguel Lupi 20, 1249-078 Lisboa, Portugal

³ Department of Economics, University of Toronto, 150 St. George St., Toronto, ON M5S 3G7, Canada

two standard deviations above the 2008-16 average. The average turnaround time continued its decreasing path to 47 days, a 30 per cent reduction, while the rejection rate for new submissions showed a slight increase.

The 11th annual meeting of PEJ was held at the University of *Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro* in July 2017 and was organised by João Rebelo (chair), Ana Marta, José Vaz Caldas, Leonida Correia, Lina Gomes, Patrícia António, Patrícia Martins, and Sofia Gouveia. Vasco Carvalho led the scientific committee and Sofia Villas-Boas was the keynote speaker. The ExB of PEJ is extremely grateful to all of them for a job well done.

The 2018 conference will take place at ISEG - Lisbon School of Economics & Management (ISEG) of *Universidade de Lisboa* from 6 to 8 July. The local organising committee is composed by António Afonso (chair), Cândida Ferreira, Joana Pais, and Luca Opromolla. Margarida Duarte is the chair of the scientific committee, and Roel Beetsma and Gianmarco Ottaviano are the keynote speakers.

There are eleven Portuguese cities with at least an institution awarding a degree in Economics. This means that by the end of 2018, the PEJ conference will have been held at all of them.¹ Thus, in 2019 a new cycle will begin for the annual meetings of PEJ. The ExB welcomes proposals to host the conference by universities that have already hosted it, by other higher-education institutions with groups producing research in economics, and even by non-Portuguese universities with special ties to the Portuguese economic community, provided that travelling is made affordable for researchers in Portugal.

2 Special topic: refereeing

The smooth working of PEJ hinges on the collaboration of a very large number of people. High among these is undoubtedly the contribution of our referees. Their reviews are crucial for the evaluation of the papers submitted to PEJ. In the last ten years, PEJ received more than 600 referee reports. Our referees cover a vast set of research institutions located in nearly 40 countries from all continents. The top three countries, each one with more than 50 revisions completed, were Portugal, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Considering that it is not possible to mention all the nearly 400 names that were generous enough to contribute to PEJ with their reviews, we name those that did it more often. Here is the top 10% referees since 2008 that were not members of the board (alphabetical order): Margarida Abreu, Bernardino Adão, Luís Aguiar-Conraria, Carla Amado, João Amador, António Antunes, Juan Carlos Barcena-Ruiz, Dirk Baur, Raouf Boucekkine, Maria Giovanna Brandano, Duarte Brito, Tiago Cavalcanti, Maria do Céu Cortez, Ramon Faulí-Oller, Víctor Fernández-Blanco, Miguel Ferreira, Miguel Lebre de Freitas, John Gibson, Pedro Gil, Rita Ginja, Orlando Gomes, Toshihiro Matsumura, Noriaki Matsushima, Joseph Mullins, João Nicolau, Vladimir Otrachshenko, Keijiro Otsuka, Sonia Paty, Maximiano Pinheiro, Armando

¹ The 2015 edition was an exception.

José Garcia Pires, Joaquim Ramalho, Bibhas Saha, Carlos Daniel Santos, Ron Smith, Nuno Sobreira, Kwok Tong Soo, Francisco José Veiga, and David Zimmer.

Thank you!